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Some say, think again.

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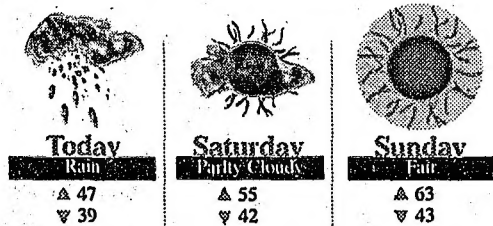
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The Gateway

Friday, April 23, 1999

The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Student Newspaper

Established 1913 Volume 99 Issue 55

Nutrition and Dietetics Face Some Cutbacks

DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES TO BE CUT; STUDENTS MUST TRAVEL TO UNL

Tony Dreibus
News Editor

— Editor's note: Concerns were raised about the story, "Food and Nutrition Cut from Budget," published April 16 concerning cutbacks in the nutrition department. This follow-up takes a closer look at the changes that are taking place.

Several nutrition and dietetics students expressed their anger Wednesday over cutbacks in their department that will force them to travel to Lincoln to complete their degrees.

The nutrition department is University of Nebraska at Lincoln-based and upper level courses are taught via an interactive television distance learning program.

Under the new program, these distance learning courses, which account for about 18 credit hours, will be eliminated, forcing UNO's nutrition students to commute to Lincoln.

"Of course, the students would like to take the courses here," said Bill Meredith, associate dean of Human Resources of Family Sciences. "But that's a decision that the nutrition faculty in Lincoln made. They feel, for their department, it doesn't provide as good a quality education

as in the class setting."

Meredith, who has taught the interactive distance education classes since 1980, said the classes are good.

"I think I'd prefer a regular class," he said, "but from my viewpoint, the classes are just as good in terms of what students learn."

The nutrition and dietetics students who met Wednesday agreed with Meredith.

"The Omaha students have never had a problem with distance education classes. We've all done very well," said UNO senior Melissa Portland.

"A lot of us feel here, that as non-traditional students, we're being shunned," said UNO senior Denise Schmitz. " (Lincoln is) running the show, and they give Omaha no consideration. We feel we contribute a lot to this program. We give our time and our money, we promote this program, and we are pretty angry about it."

"We feel it's going to hurt the program, and pretty soon the program is not going to be part of Omaha or Kearney anymore," Schmitz said. "And we feel that we have just as much of a right to have the classes work for our schedules and just to be considered. That's all we're asking, is

see NUTRITION, page 3

Stretching the Experience



Chris Machlan

Helping students combat the stress of looming finals week, the Student Programming Organization sponsored stress-relieving events Tuesday. One such event was the bungee run in the Pep Bowl. UNO students Faysal Al-Twal, left, and Rolisha Davis participate in the bungee run.

Religion Professor Leaves UNO

Rebecca Moermond
Staff Writer

Tuesday night's fundraising dinner left guests with a bitter sweet feeling after the announcement that Dr. Richard Freund, UNO's Isaacson professor of religious studies, has accepted a position at the University of Hartford in Connecticut as director of the Maurice Greenberg center for Jewish studies and professor of history.

"His announcement was met with sorrow by all of Dr. Freund's students," said Kristy Leahy, a religions major at UNO. "He goes above and beyond a professor's responsibilities and everyone of us will feel this loss."

Dr. Freund began at UNO in 1989. In 1990 he started the Bethsaida excavations project and has since went on to earn numerous honors while at UNO, including the university wide research award and the excellence in teaching award.

Although Freund said he will continue to administer the whole project and the vision of the project by regularly coming back to Omaha and keeping in direct connections with UNO, his colleagues noted that things around UNO will not be the same without him.

"It will be a big change for UNO," said Wendy Chiarbos, Bethsaida project coordinator. "The University of Hartford is lucky to have him."

Freund said he felt mixed emo-

tions about the decision, however knows the day to day operations of the Bethsaida project are being left in excellent hands. He also said that this is a great opportunity for the Bethsaida project to grow.

"We have connections on the west coast, but this is our first affiliation with a university on the east coast," Freund said.

This will be a change for Freund's family, wife Eliane and three boys Yonathan 12, Eli 7 and Ethan 2. Yet Eliane says this is an opportunity they couldn't pass up and it will be difficult for them to say good bye to this "gem of a community."

"This has been the most productive 10 years of our lives together," said Eliane. "But it's now or never."

Columbine Under Siege



Fran Allison, right, comforts her daughter Brooke after being reunited following Tuesday's shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. Two young men dressed in long, black trench coats opened fire in the suburban high school Tuesday, scattering students as gunshots ricocheted off lockers. (Photo courtesy KWGN)

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U.S. Airways Ranked First in Study

Jason Kuiper
Senior Staff Writer

U.S. Airways is rated the top airline in a national study ranking 10 major U.S. Airlines. The results of the national Airline Quality Rating (AQR) study were announced in a news conference April 19 in Washington D.C.

The rating is conducted annually by the W. Frank Barton School of Business at Wichita State University and the UNO Aviation Institute. The AQR, as an industry

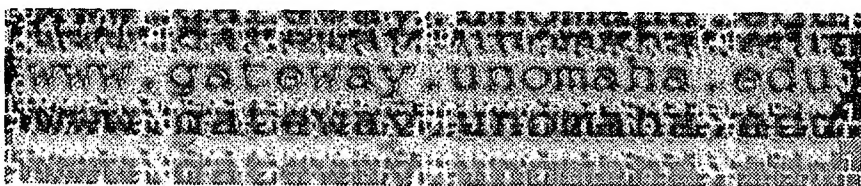
standard, provides consumers and industry watchers a means to compare quality among airlines using objective performance-based data. It is a cooperative research project funded as part of faculty research activities at WSU and UNO with added support from the NASA Nebraska Space Grant Consortium.

The AQR ranked the 10 major airlines as follows: 1) US Airways, 2) Continental, 3) American, 4) Delta, 5) Southwest, 6) America West, 7) TWA, 8) Alaska, 9) Northwest,

and 10) United. The 1998 rating reflects an updated focus on a refined consumer performance set of criteria.

The AQR is a summary of month-by-month quality ratings for major domestic U.S. airlines operating during 1998. The U.S. Department of Transportation defines a major airline as an airline whose operating revenue for a 12-month period is \$1 billion or more. Co-researchers Dean Headley, associate professor of

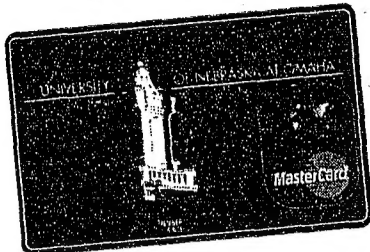
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Bottled Water Not As 'Pure' As Claimed

Vineta Pritchard
Staff Writer

The label reads "pure," however new research proves bottled water may not be any safer than what comes from our home faucets.

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) tested 103 brands of bottled water last month and found one third contained contaminants that exceeded state or federal standards.

It is reported that Americans spend \$4 billion a year on bottled water. While sales are surging, Gina Solomon, M.D., senior scientist with NRDC said, "people are not always getting the purity they've paid for."

Solomon said bottled water is not a health hazard, but it's just not as pristine and clean as claimed. The organization warned the presence of certain types of bacteria in some of the samples collected could possibly pose problems for infants, elderly and those with HIV and AIDS.

The environmental advocacy group said that weak federal regulations have contributed to the spotty quality.

Despite the quality of bottled water, last year consumers chugged 3.4 billion gallons, leaving environmentalist saying consumers are being duped.

"Bottled water is extremely safe," said Cindy Yablonski of the International Bottled Water Association.

Out of 1,000 bottles sent to three independent labs, between 25 percent and 40 percent is re-packaged municipal water re-filtered to remove local taste.

Industry representatives accused environmental groups of trying to scare bottled water drinkers. The representatives said bottled water is safe and tightly regulated, however, studies prove tap water is tested for contaminants more often than bottled water.

Now that the study is concluded NRDC took a poll on why people drink bottled water. Most said because they worried about tap water safety.

Anna, a junior journalism student drinks bottle water because, "it taste better than tap water." While, Steven a junior communication major drinks bottled water for the convenience, "it's easily transported."

"There are no guarantees about what you are buying when you pick up a bottle of water," said James Wheaton, president of the Environmental Law Foundation. "It's a consumer rip off, sometimes you're getting better water and sometimes you're not. But you don't know."

AIRLINES: Study Ranks Best Service

from page 1

marketing at WSU, and Brent Bowen, director of the UNO Aviation Institute, used 15 elements important to consumers when judging the quality of airline services.

"Generally, the airlines do a good job of getting you from point A to point B on time and with your luggage," said Headley in a press release. "Evidently the consumer is finding fault in the manner in which these services are being delivered. The airlines seem to be taking the attitude, 'We get you there safely with your belongings. What else do you want?'"

Criteria included in the rating are screened to meet two basic elements, a cri-

teria must be readily obtainable from published data sources for each airline and a criteria must be important to consumers regarding airline quality. This includes areas such as baggage handling, on-time arrivals, denied boardings and 12 elements of customer service.

"The data for 1999 shows us that consumers are near the breaking point with dissatisfaction as the quality curve slopes downward," said Bowen in a press release. "The airlines are implementing rule changes and policies that aggravate the traveling public. We support the initiative in Congress to pass an Airline Passengers' Bill of Rights."

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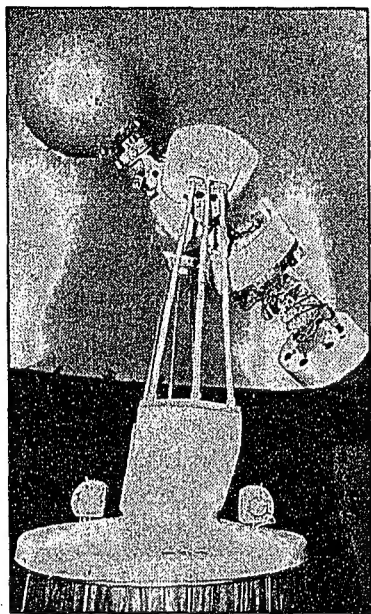
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Get to Know Your Campus



SH Steve Houlton

Answer:

You're looking the spitz fire ball in the Mallory Kountze planetarium in the Durham Science Center. The ball contains 5200 holes, allowing light to shine through, projecting "stars" on the walls and ceiling of the planetarium. The ball has been used since its installation in 1987. The ball was purchased by a donation from Mallory Kountze and cost nearly \$200,000. For more information on the planetarium, visit www.physics.unomaha.edu/planet

NUTRITION: Students Unhappy About Change

from page 1

for consideration."

"It's like moving back in technology," said UNO senior Jennifer Ward. "There are so many universities that are bringing the classes to the students. And this university, now they're changing it back."

Junior Niki Dorcas, who is a cross-country/track runner for UNO expressed her feelings about combining practice, events and the commute to Lincoln into her schedule.

"Because of our practice schedules, we can't go to Lincoln until we're almost done competing," she said. "Lincoln hasn't even thought about how this affects UNO's extra curricular activities."

Other concerns from UNO students are driving conditions in the winter and the construction that is planned for I-80 between Omaha and Lincoln.

"I'll be darned if I risk my life in February during an ice storm to get down to Lincoln," Schmitz said. "Then I'm missing class and

I'm missing notes, and my grade is going to be lower."

Marilynn Schnepf, chair of the College of Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics at UNL, said the decision was based on economic factors combined with student evaluations.

"We're being nicked and dined to death," said Schnepf. "With budget problems, we lose flexibility."

"With distance education, the technology and faculty expertise is not quite there yet," she said. "That doesn't mean in the future they won't be. But student evaluations have been pretty low for those."

The problem, said Portland, is the lack of attention given to UNO students by the distance education instructors from Lincoln.

"They're getting bad recommendations because they're teaching bad, not because of the TV class" Portland said.

Schnepf said she does feel for the

students who have to make the trip.

"I know it's a hardship for them...I can understand (their being upset)," she said. "We're trying to make it as convenient as possible."

Meredith said a four percent cut two years ago, combined with a six percent cut now, is hurting the program.

"Something has to give when that happens," he said. "I think (Lincoln) might see this as a way to consolidate things without diminishing the strengths of both places."

Schnepf said that if nutrition and dietetics students "truly want their degree," they will take the courses in Lincoln.

Portland said she has written letters to administrators in both Lincoln and Omaha about the matter.

"Nobody ever along the way asked the UNO students how they feel," said senior Stephanie Minor. "We have no voice."

Police Ride-Alongs Good Educational Tool, Police Say

Jason Kuiper

Senior Staff Writer

The Omaha Police Department has offered a "ride-along program" to help the "average Joe" gain a basic understanding of police work for many years.

Most large cities sponsor some form of

the "ride-along program," but it is not generally advertised because the police normally have enough to worry about without having to take citizens on the streets.

Of course, there is the potential for danger. This is true anytime a police officer puts on his uniform and has to perform the duty of making our streets a safe place for the

average law-abiding citizen.

"The ride-along is a good educational tool for the public; it gives people a better perspective of what it is we do," said Sgt. Jeff Baker, an eight-year veteran of the Omaha Police Department. "Many people have the idea of police work based on the Hollywood perspective."

It is tough to do too many ride-alongs because of staffing problems and the fact that the more ride-alongs are done, the odds of endangering the public increase.

"No, I don't have any specific knowledge of anyone getting hurt while going on a ride-along," Baker said.

see POLICE, page 9

Do You Want to Be a Founding Father?



PHI DELTA THETA

The Standard for Brotherhood

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cbrown2@unomaha.edu or

Stop By the S.O.L.D. office and leave a message!

Littleton, Colo.: What Comes After This?



Does art imitate life or does life imitate art?

It's an age-old question.

We have those who argue and believe the action and events that occur in movies are replicated in the real world—a life imitating art theory.

But others who find real life events are the inspiration to those events taking place in such art forms—the art imitating life theory.

After seeing the events that unfolded in Colorado Tuesday, I can only conclude that no matter

what theory is right, life can be messed up.

I watch the news all the time.

After a while it all looks the same and you don't really think too much about what the events unfolding around you say about the times you live in. But then something crazy happens and upper cuts you in the face.

Preliminary reports say 16 dead. Some kids walked into their school and blasted away two dozen and wounded others. But the question shouldn't be how did this happen, it should be why. Why did these young minds go to such extreme measures?

Try and relate with me on this one. It's a little far fetched and it places the blame on the victims and their parents, but just think

about it at least.

Apparently the suspects were outcasts. They were the ones everyone made fun of. You know the type of group, because you were either in it, or made fun of them yourself. These kids think of this plan, go and do it, then they kill themselves.

Something straight out of a movie you might have seen. That's probably where they got the idea to do this. Why else would they think of something like this and have the capacity to follow through. A movie could be an instruction manual of sorts. It doesn't even have to come from a movie; any media could have sprung this subconsciously or consciously in their heads.

This is a great excuse for

those of you who don't want to think about the real implications of such actions. Doesn't it seem like there must be a break down somewhere else in society, other than the arts and entertainment?

I don't want to believe these kids went psycho because the parents of the kids who made fun of the gunmen failed to teach their children to respect other humans, regardless of how you perceive them. That breakdown in the moral code kills my mind too much. I can't seriously try to excuse such horrendous action, because we fail to teach kids compassion for others.

But I can look at it this way, if I ignore the "now" of the situation. Think for a second as a historian of human behavior. Two

hundred years from now, what would your analysis of this situation be? That some kids went loony and started blazing their guns, or the environment they were raised in was able to bring those actions about.

I don't want to believe anything other than that the kids had mental problems. But, it fails to recognize the entire depth of the situation. No excuse could ever pardon what happened Tuesday, it wouldn't be right.

Yet, you know what the worse part of this whole ordeal is? It will take something even worse for us to take notice of what is going wrong in our world today. It might not take a computer glitch to wipe us off the earth; we might do it ourselves.

Media Cannot Be Blamed For Carnage in Colorado



Tuesday at 11 a.m. mountain time, about 900 students at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. headed to the cafeteria, library or other classrooms for lunch.

These students were unaware of the danger they were about to encounter.

Thirty minutes later, two young men wearing long black trench coats approached the school. They pulled out weapons and opened fire in the parking lot. The two proceeded into the school and unleashed carnage, shooting as they walked and destroying any young, innocent lives, who were unable to hide or escape the school.

When the bullets, pipe bombs and screams finally ceased, as many as 15 people were injured and as many as 25, including the two suspected gunmen, lay dead.

As soon as the story in Littleton

broke around the world, people started to point fingers and place blame.

The school should have protected the children.

The media is responsible.

And so on and so.

The most popular cause discussed on numerous television broadcasts and in many newspapers was the entertainment world. Analysts immediately pointed out the similarities between the film, "Basketball Diaries" and the mayhem in Colorado.

"Hollywood needs to protect our children from films that corrupt their minds and warp their sense of values," said one mother interviewed on CNN.

"Why doesn't the government do something and protect our kids? They can always censor more movies and literature," one father said on MSNBC.

Another person went as far as to say the victim's families should sue the directors and film companies that made "Basketball Diaries" and "Natural Born Killers."

Since these films showed people killing others and enjoying it, that must be the reason why children

are going trigger happy.

Wrong.

We can't blame or scape goat the entertainment industry. It's not the industry's fault kids go bad and hurt innocent people.

Nobody makes children go to films that depict violence. Most of these films are rated R anyway, so how do kids under the age of 17 get into them or watch them on TV?

Maybe the industry has brainwashed them and forces them to watch these films.

Or perhaps, parents simply don't know where their kids are or what they are doing?

That's a big part of the problem.

Some parents simply don't want to accept responsibility for their children and their actions.

For example, if my parents found out I was a member of the Trench Coat Mafia and was really into death, they'd be worried and talk to me about it. Furthermore, I was raised properly and realize such actions and associations are not right and will not be tolerated.

Now some people will argue, I don't have enough time to patrol my kids and watch over them. I

have to work and pay the bills.

Most parents work full time, some go to school, take care of their home and still have time to raise decent law abiding children. If most of American can raise their children, what's happening to the rest of the parents?

They're not showing discipline, compassion and leadership to their children and that is pathetic.

We need a license to fish, hunt and own guns in this country, yet any moron with reproductive organs can have a kid.

What is wrong with this picture? Everything.

Guns are another key issue in these kinds of incidents. Where do most of the guns come from that are used in school killings?

The home.

Take the recent school shooting in Arkansas.

The gunmen, both under the age of 14, used guns from their parents and grandparents homes. The kids were even taught how to use the guns.

It's no wonder these kids become trigger happy, they're taught by their parents and organizations like the National Rifle

Association (NRA) that guns are OK.

Yet, gun education is supposed to be a deterrent to violence. Why isn't it working?

Because parents who own these guns are not setting good examples by owning the guns in the first place. If you put guns in the reach of children and teens, in many cases you're asking for trouble.

All in all, until some parents start doing their jobs, they have no right to blame Hollywood, the government or anyone else for such incidents, but themselves and the young killers.

Aaron Cohen, a Columbine High School student said, as reported in the Omaha World Herald April 21 that, "They were laughing after they shot. It was like they were having the time of their life."

Do these students sound like they have strong parental influences? What kind of people would laugh at death and the tears of their fellow students? Simply put, students without good parents and easy access to guns are truly to blame for the tragedy in Littleton.

Gateway Editorial/Letter Policy

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. Opinions in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Gateway staff or the Publications Committee. Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness, clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication.

Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Have any of you Gateway staffers noticed how completely obnoxious the student radio station is; that oppressive broadcast in the student center cafeteria?

Listeners should have a choice whether or not they wish to tune in; but for some reason, the university has allowed those children over at KBUL to force their brand of music and mind-

less commentary onto any person who wishes to use the student center to get something to eat.

I'm glad I only go in the student center to get breakfast.

I feel sorry for the people who have to work under that constant barrage of The Teenage Super Mutants or whatever the favor du jour.

Christopher Garrity

Preview Our Emerging Artists! ON SALE NOW @ Homer's!

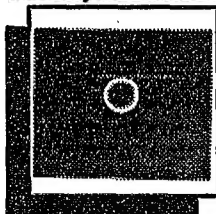
ALTERNATIVE POP



SIXPENCE NONE THE RICHER
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"Kiss Me," the album's first single, is a striking pop gem which celebrates the whimsical spirit of romance. The voices float over articulate, emotive guitar arrangements. Suddenly, you realize you've already listened to the third song on the album, unaware that the first two had ever ended. It's okay. Relax. That's how it's meant to be.

ROCK/ELECTRONICA



BEAUCOUP FISH
JDB
\$12.88 CD

Their previous albums were directly influenced by the dance scenes of their time. But with their third record, *Beaucoup Fish* spans the band's more personal influences...from Jeff Mills style techno to stutter sharp as nails hip hop break beats to the modern classical sounds of Philip Glass and Michael Nyman, while still focusing on the dancefloor.

ALTERNATIVE ROCK



BLUR 13
Vega
\$12.88 CD

The new album is the sound of a band, in the words of Damon Albarn, "becoming completely free, becoming artistically liberated". The result is a sound at once abstract and yet crowded with detail and inspiring moments, making the music that best expresses them; of a group maturing into a fully realized musical whole.

CONTEMPORARY FOLK



DAVID WILCOX
Underneath
\$12.88 CD

David Wilcox, a self-taught guitarist continues to be a staple in the folk/pop world, with songs such as "Guilty Either Way," about the paradox of helping a friend with a dangerous addiction. Audiences are drawn to David's balladry, his wry wit, clever poems, inventive guitar work and his entertaining stories. *Underneath* does not disappoint.

ALTERNATIVE ROCK/POP



FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE
Utopia Parkway
\$12.88 CD

The New York-based group gives us a delicious dose of pop complete with harmony-laden, doo-de-do-punctuated heights with such tracks as "Denise," and "Red Dragon Tattoo." In a cool rocking style that recalls classic fab recordings, they expertly spin a ditty-filled universe with discussions of Big Apple, 'burbs life and conflicts of love and loss.

ROCK



OLEANDER
February Son
\$9.88 CD

What started out as a group of friends who got together to play live music as a weekend hobby, has turned into one of the hottest acts to come out of Sacramento. With credible local airplay of songs such as "You'll Find Out," "Shrinking The Blob," and "Boys Don't Cry," Oleander has found the right formula for success.

ALTERNATIVE ROCK/POP



KORY & THE FIREFLIES
Radiate
\$12.88 CD

This is a group of talented musicians from South Dakota. The album is grounded in guitars, bass, drums and angular Midwestern soul. With jangly power chords and a Dylan-esque voice, the band ties small-town nuance into larger issues, creating a record that is steeped in an honesty like only solid American rock can be.

GUITAR ROCK



MICHAEL LEE FIRKINS
Decomposition
\$12.98 CD

Decomposition, the first album in several years from guitarist and Omaha native, rocks with a unique twist. It pays homage to rock and blues legends such as Lynyrd Skynyrd, Jimi Hendrix and Johnny Winter. He salutes these true rock pioneers while debuting new vocalist Sonny Reece on 3 tracks. Available 4.29.99

POP/COUNTRY



JILL MARIE
Loves Me - Loves Me Not
\$3.49 CD

Since the age of 10, Jill Marie's career has developed from a track show to a full-staged concert with five-piece band. Now at 18, Jill Marie, a professional entertainer, she and her band Rockin' Country have developed into a high energy stage show. Her dynamic stage presence brings the audience to their feet dancing.

ALTERNATIVE ROCK



JANGLEPOP
Ductwork Shakes
\$11.98 CD

Janglepop fits like a nice flannel. Good midwest boys from Omaha, the quartet specializes in simple, driving rock that tells a story- the sort of stuff that Paul Westerburg never got rich off of. Janglepop was chosen to perform at the first EAT/M music conference in Las Vegas last year. Available 5.1.99

::Janglepop::

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AT THE
RANCHBOWL**

ALTERNATIVE ROCK



CLEVER
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\$11.98 CD

Omaha's very own. Clever has written all the songs on their newest release. The CD includes the tracks: "Golden AM," "Perfectly," "Blasphemy," "Bother To Ask," and "Beep." You'll love them all! This CD was born and raised right here. Buy it while you still can!

ROCK



BUCKCHERRY
Buckcherry
\$10.88 CD

Based out of Los Angeles, the five-piece unit has been establishing a strong fan base in the L.A. club scene since 1997. Sex Pistols guitarist Steve Jones guests on their self-titled debut album. With tracks such as "Lit Up," "Check Your Head," and "Dirty Mind" they have reached beyond the traditional rock confines.

RAP/R&B



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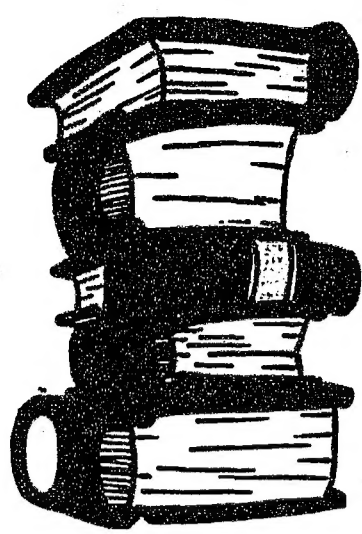
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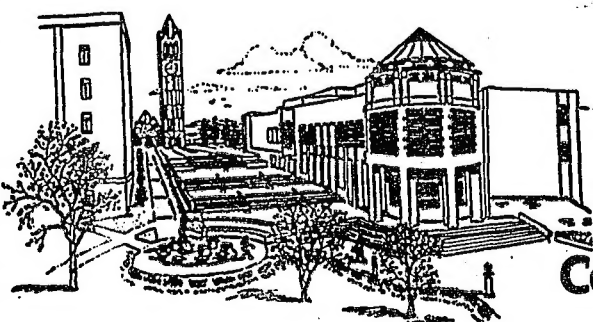
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15 Killed; 24 Injured in Columbine Massacre

College Press Exchange

LITTLETON, Colo. - The bodies of at least 15 students and teachers, including two teen-age suspects, remained in suburban Denver's Columbine High School until Wednesday afternoon when bomb experts were convinced it was safe for detectives and coroners to enter.

Meanwhile, 10 of the 28 victims hospitalized following Tuesday's attack remained listed in serious or critical condition in area hospitals.

Bodies were left inside the sprawling, two-story school a full day after the shootings because police feared the building was laced with bombs and booby traps. Bomb experts found at least one explosive device before dawn Wednesday in addition to the 30 others FBI and SWAT team experts said they found scattered throughout the school, its parking lot and one of the killer's homes shortly after the attack.

"We're trying to make sure the scene is completely swept clean of any potential explosives. That's our first order of business," Jefferson County Administrator Ron Holliday said early Wednesday morning. "We literally have hundreds of book bags scattered all over the school, so those are potential dangers to our officers."

Authorities called the bloody rampage a "suicide mission" embarked upon by two juniors, Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, who were members of a group of students called the "Trenchcoat Mafia." It was the deadliest outbreak of school violence in American history, surpassing the number of killings at Jonesboro, Ark., Paducah, Ky., and Pearl, Miss., that left a total of 10 dead.

The gunmen wounded more than two dozen students, many critically, and laughed and joked as they fired and triggered pipe bombs, students said. Police later found the attackers' bodies in the school's library, apparently dead from self-inflicted gunshot wounds. The bodies of 12 other students also were found in the library — nine males and three females. The body of one adult believed to be a teacher was found just outside the library.

The death toll is at 15, down from the 25 authorities estimated immediately after the siege.

Several students who witnessed the shootings said the gunmen targeted minorities and athletes at first, but in the end, appeared to fire random shots at anyone in their paths. Authorities said they so far have not uncovered a motive for the attack, nor found written statements explaining the massacre on the gunmen's bodies.

Four students who were detained for questioning shortly after the shooting and believed to have been friends of the two gunmen have been released, said Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputy Steve Davis. No arrests have been made, and none are planned at this time, he added.

"Right now, we have no reason to believe we have any other suspects besides the two that are dead," he said.

Late Tuesday, bomb crews detonated two pipe bombs found inside the gunmen's cars in the school parking lot and other explosives found on and near the gunmen's bodies. However, just before 11 p.m. Tuesday, another bomb set on a timer exploded in the building. Of the others found and detonated, one was rigged to blow up a gas tank, Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone said.

Stone said the devices ranged from crude to sophisticated and could have been made using materials found in just about any hardware store. They were tucked in hallways and outside the building in knapsacks.

"Some of these devices are on timers, some are incendiary, and some are pipe bombs," Stone said. "Some are like hand grenades that have got shrapnel in them wrapped around butane containers."

Police who searched the gunmen's homes found bomb-making materials, white supremacy literature and references to the "Trenchcoat Mafia" — a small group that still managed to stand out among the high school's 1,870 students. About a dozen male students, almost all of them seniors who wore black trenchcoats to school every day, considered themselves members. Students said group members had a reputation for using drugs and often bragged about guns and bombs and claimed to hate blacks, Hispanics and student athletes. They also said group members frequently wore swastikas and Nazi slogans on their dark clothing — prompting many to note that Tuesday would have been Adolf Hitler's 110th birthday.

Though the Trenchcoat Mafia was occasionally disruptive and often preoccupied with death, many who witnessed the Columbine High shootings said they never imagined the group would act so violently.

Shaken students who survived the late-morning attack spoke of the gunmen's savage and casual cruelty.

"There was a girl crouched beneath a desk, and the guy came over and said, 'Peek-a-boo!' and shot her in the neck," said sophomore Bryon Kirland, 15.

Aaron Cohn, a 17-year-old junior, said he was in the library when Harris and Klebold entered wearing trench coats.

First, he said, they threw pipe bombs that wounded some of his classmates. Then one attacker called out, "All the jocks stand up - I'm going to kill every single one of you," Cohn said.

The killers began shooting. When someone survived the initial round and cried out in pain, he said, "they just kept shooting them until they were dead. They were laughing, hooting and hollering."

"They were having the best time of their lives," he said.

Cohn said one of the killers put a gun to his head but didn't shoot him. Instead, he said, the shooter turned his

attention to a black student, saying, "I hate niggers."

"Then bang, bang, bang," Cohn said.

"Is he dead?" Cohn said the shooter asked his partner.

"Yeah, he's dead," came the answer.

One sobbing student said she watched fellow students fall all around her in the library. The gunmen laughed as they fired, killing the girl next to her and then a boy nearby before aiming at her.

"You could hear them laughing and running upstairs," she sobbed. "They didn't care who it was, and it was all at close range."

The attack began without warning Tuesday about 11:30 a.m. Denver time. The gunmen approached from across a nearby athletic field, opened fire on students eating lunch outside, then moved into the cafeteria and through the school building.

see COLUMBINE, page 10

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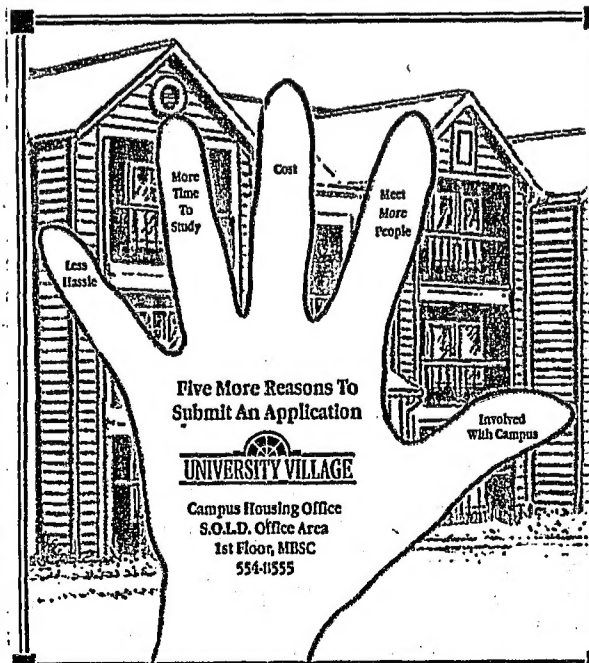
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Sports

Ras Flirts With a No-No in Sweep

Jim Sheil
Staff Writer

In baseball there are only a few reasons why a teammate will stop talking to you during a game. Either you're making eyes with his girlfriend in the stands or you have a no-hitter in progress.

Monday afternoon against the South Dakota State Jackrabbits, the silence became deafening for UNO pitcher Brent Rasmussen. It wasn't because he couldn't take his eyes off of teammate Steve Synowicki's girlfriend. He was making the Jackrabbits look like silly rabbits, holding them hitless into the final inning. A seventh inning single broke up the no-hitter, but the Mavs cruised to win 10-0.

Somewhat overshadowed, was Ryan Longtin, who followed with a three-hit shutout to complete the North Central Conference sweep.

Rasmussen said he had good control of all his pitches and kept the hitters off balance. "There is about a 20 mile an hour difference between my fastball and my slider."

Catcher Brad Prokupek said Rasmussen threw only one bad pitch all afternoon and the result was the seventh inning single. The right-hander allowed only one hit, while striking out nine and moved his record to (4-3).

Mike Haynes went 3-3 with an RBI and his brother, Matt, hit his second homer of the season, in support of Rasmussen.

Longtin (2-3) went the distance winning 7-0 and recorded eight strikeouts in his first shutout of the season. South Dakota had been given a goose egg on the scoreboard only once this

season, prior to the Rasmussen-Longtin tag team effort.

The most important aspect of the doubleheader sweep, was it moved the Mavs into a tie for second place in the NCC. The top four teams at seasons end advance to the NCC tournament.

"I think we are peaking at the right time to make a run at the conference tournament," Rasmussen said. UNO had been somewhat error prone earlier in the season, but have committed only one boot in the last four games and the Mavs are getting clutch hits.

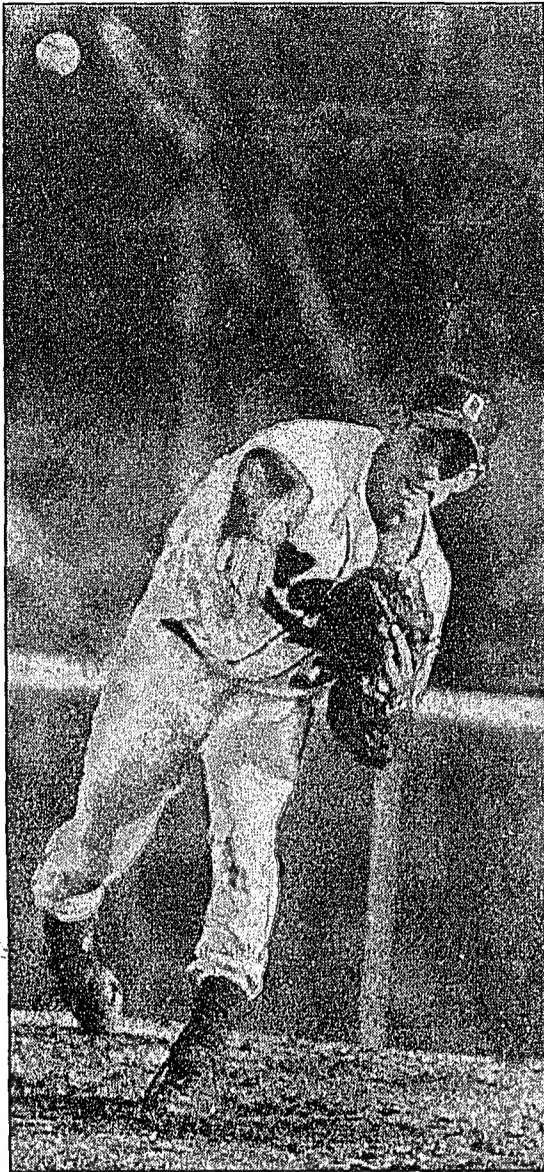
UNO got the broom out again in sweeping another doubleheader Tuesday and this time the trash was the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

In the opener, Joe McPherson (1-3) picked up the win in relief of freshman starter Brian Durow, who pitched well going into the first five innings and kept the Mavs in the game. McPherson was very effective against the Lopers, as he allowed only one base runner in two innings of work.

Offensively, Mark Lehman went 3-4 and Prokupek hit a homer and had three RBI's. But the heroics were provided by Rasmussen, with a game-winning single in the seventh inning to win 7-6.

John Shoemaker and Justin Siebler led the Mavs in a 7-5 victory in the second game to complete the sweep of UNK. Shoemaker (1-0) pitched a complete game and allowed seven hits. UNO used a four run fourth inning to pull away and was highlighted by Siebler's tie-breaking single.

The Mavs are in action this weekend with conference a doubleheader against South Dakota at College World Series Park at 1:30 p.m..



Joe Hammeke

Senior Brent Rasmussen splits time for the Mavericks between the outfield and the mound.

Mavs Run Two Ways

Andy Nordmeier
Sports Editor

The Maverick track and field team will lace up the sneakers at one of the most widely-known track meets of the year, the Drake Relays, held in Des Moines, Iowa. The gun fires at 8 a.m. today and tomorrow on the two-day meet.

The Mavericks will be using the meet to try and gain more qualifying times for the national meet, which comes up in just a month's time in Kansas.

The Mavericks will be sending their more elite runners to the Drake Relays. The competition will be fierce, as the Mavericks will be one of the few Division II teams in the field. Most of the other schools are Division I, like Wisconsin and Minnesota, to name a couple.

The Mavericks, who don't run at Drake this week, will be going out Sunday to Lincoln, Neb. and take to the track in the Nebraska Wesleyan Open, which starts at 1 p.m. The Mavericks will also be able to use the meet in Lincoln as a second chance to better times on the weekend for the runners that go to Drake and don't make cuts into the finals.

If the team keeps on running, jumping and throwing like it did last week, there won't be any stopping the Mavericks from making the finals. UNO won six events and had 10 top-three finishes at the

Doane Relays in Crete, Neb. Tara Billoft (1,500-meter run), LaShonte McReynolds (100-meter hurdles), Carly Lambert (100-meter dash) and Karisa Foight (200-meter dash) were individual event winners for the Mavericks at the meet.

In addition, the 4x100-meter relay squad of Lambert, Foight, Kelly Koziol and Keonna Shaw took first place in a time of 47.85 seconds.

The 4x800-meter relay finished second, as did Suzanne Larson in the high jump. Sandy Derby finished third in the high jump and Shannon Williams also came in third in the 800-meter run.

Following this weekend's two meets, the Mavericks will have to step up and take their performance to another level, with only the Howard Wood Relays standing between the Mavericks and the North Central Conference meet.

Softball Team Brooms Mustangs

Andy Nordmeier
Sports Editor

The Maverick softball team survived a scare in the first game of Tuesday's doubleheader against Morningside, before escaping with a 4-3 win and cruising to a 5-1 triumph in the nightcap.

In game one, Maverick starter Michelle Manthei got into a second-inning bases-loaded no-out

jam. Then catcher Jennifer Carson went out to the pitcher's rubber and told Manthei something that must have worked. Manthei struck out the next two batters and forced a lineout to third base, to escape from the threat unscathed.

The Mavericks scored all of the game one runs in the fourth inning, highlighted by a two-run single off the bat of Kelly Davis.

The 4-0 lead stayed intact and it appeared that Manthei was

cruising towards win No. 20 on the season, but almost didn't make it there.

Morningside was able to get three runs back, two of them coming off a misplay by Davis, on a line drive to third. Morningside had the tying run at first, but Manthei shut down the opposing pitcher, Cindy Foland, to end the game and escape with the win.

Game two saw runs get scored earlier, as it was 1-1 after

two innings. The Mavericks would score the game-winning run in the third and tack on three more insurance runs in the fifth to put the game out of reach. Senior Tara Buzzell had the honors on the mound this time and threw a six-hitter to pick up her 14th win of the season.

The Mavericks now have six days without a game, the next one is April 27 in the home finale against Bellevue University at 4 p.m.



Chris Machlan



Chris Machlan

In photo at left, Morningside Mustang shortstop Angie Koll tries to tag Jennifer Carson as she slides safely into second Tuesday. Above, Mav centerfielder Jenny Redlinger is batting .377 this season.

Sports

Hoop Hardware

The Maverick men's basketball team named senior all-conference, all-region forward Corey Griffin its most valuable player at the team's annual awards banquet.

Robert Wettstein was named the team's best defensive player, while

Kyle Mann was named the team's most inspirational player.

POLICE: Hobbies and Interests Help Officers' State of Mind

from page 3

The night of this reporter's ride-along was not heavy on the police action, in fact, Baker did not get a chance to pull anyone over, but it did give a different perspective to just what the Omaha Police officers do and how they feel about certain issues in regards to how the public sees them and vice-versa.

Since police officers normally deal with the side of the public which does break the law it can become easy to form a cynical view of society, Baker said.

Having hobbies and different interests can help an officer with his state of mind. Baker said an officer must rely on his dedication to the work. To keep his mind clear, he enjoys running and working out, as well as family time.

"The colder months provide a sort of mental break, when it warms up is when we have our busiest times," Baker said.

Baker has had his emotions tested numerous times. He has exchanged gun-fire with criminal suspects on three different occasions. In August of 1994, he was involved in a shootout at a McDonalds. A fellow officer was pursuing the suspects on foot as they tried to drive away. The other officer suddenly tripped and fell. Baker saw the car-door open and a hand extend. The hand was holding a pistol and was taking aim at the fallen officers head. "I had a split-second to decide what to do at a distance of over 50 yards," he said. "I shot at the man and blew the back windshield out, the bullet lodged into the roof, just over the suspect's head. I'm glad I missed because the kid was only 15."

Along with Baker on that particular incident, was Jimmy Wilson Jr. Baker trained Wilson and said he could see a lot of him in himself. "I was there when he cuffed his first suspect. When he made his first arrest."

A solemn moment occurred when we drove by 42nd and Blondo Streets, the site where Wilson was killed. A memory that Baker still must deal with. A reminder of what can hap-

pen in police work.

In addition to his duties on the street, Baker, a 1985 graduate of Millard North, is also the editor of The Shield, the police union's newspaper which comes out once a month. He has always enjoyed writing and feels it gives him a chance to offer insight and further perspective into police work, as well as personal opinions.

The ride along program has influenced Chad Safranek, a recent UNO graduate. Safranek left UNO with a degree in business management, but in the back of his mind he always knew he wanted to be a cop. He has gone on one ride-along and has taken between 30 and 40 trips out with the vice-squad.

"Going on ride-alongs showed me first hand what goes on day to day in police work. And going on different ones (vice or patrol) showed me the different available departments that I could work for," Safranek said.

Safranek recalls one instance with the vice-squad when he was scared. He was to pick up a prostitute and bring her to a specific sight where she would then be arrested.

Officer Safranek was hiding in the trunk, which was slightly open. But on the way to the rendezvous he hit a bump in the road which caused the trunk to close.

"I got lost going to the meeting point and she just wanted me to pull over anywhere, when I kept circling the spot where the bust

was to happen she started to get suspicious." He found the right place just as the prostitute started to "freak out" on him. He jumped out of the car and the police arrested her.

Safranek has just started his physical and written testing to become a police officer and will soon be going down to Kansas City for further testing. He feels he has a good chance of being offered a job in Kansas City

but hopes to ultimately be able to work on the Omaha Police Department.

"If I can help one person out of dangerous situation, it would mean the world to me," Safranek said.

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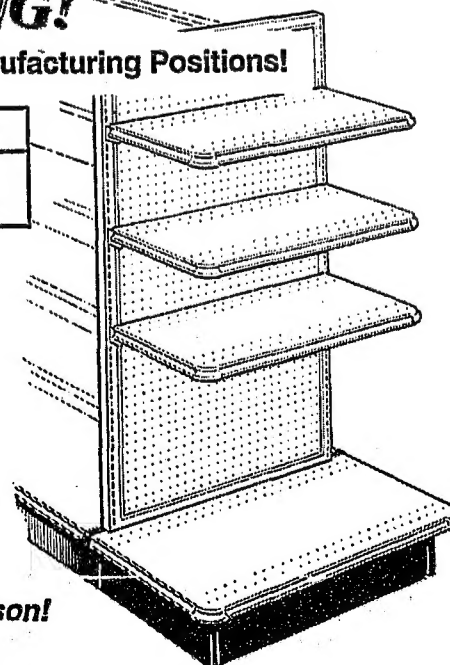
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COLUMBINE: Suspects Used America Online To Get Message Out

from page 7

Hundreds of frantic students scrambled from the high school and others barricaded themselves in classrooms, huddled on the floor. Some jammed their bodies against restroom doors. A few climbed into ventilator shafts, crawling above the ceilings searching for safe rooms below. Some called home on their cell phones, whispering to their parents that they were hiding but were all right.

Freshman Kacey Brackney, 15, was in the school's gym when she heard gunshots. She and the other students locked themselves in the gym for 15 to 20 minutes before opening the doors and sprinting from the school to Clement Park nearby.

"When we locked the doors, I hit my knees and prayed," she said.

Once she escaped, she wandered through the upper-middle-class neighborhood

around the school, searching for her mother.

"It was hysterical crying," Kacey said of their reunion. "We were praising the Lord that we found each other."

SWAT teams used armored cars to enter the school and then crept through the building, searching for the gunmen and wounded students and leading others through windows and out doors.

But the gunmen had placed pipe bombs packed with nails around the school, and police progress was agonizingly slow. It took four hours before they reached the cafeteria and library, freeing the last of the students still trapped there.

News of the shooting, particularly after Sheriff Stone's estimate of the death toll, shocked a nation already shaken by repeated cases of school violence.

At the White House, President Clinton

said he was "profoundly shocked and saddened" by the shootings.

"We don't know yet all the hows or whys of this tragedy. Perhaps we may never fully understand it," he said.

But he added, "We do know that we must do more to reach out to our children and teach them to express their anger and to resolve their conflicts with words, not weapons. And we do know that we have to do more to recognize the early warning signs that are sent before children act violently."

The Colorado Rockies baseball team and the Denver Nuggets of the National Basketball Association canceled their games Tuesday night.

And looking for any way to offer help, hundreds of people in the Denver area lined up at offices of the Bonfils Blood Center

following the shootings.

"The turnout has been phenomenal," said Rich High, recruiter for the center. "We've had calls from as far away as North Dakota and Virginia wanting to donate."

Tuesday night, America Online said it was investigating reports of a subscriber claiming to be a Trench Coat Mafia member and warning of something that would happen Tuesday. The message and others like it in AOL "member profiles" apparently were fake.

AOL spokeswoman Kim McCreery said it wasn't clear whether the subscriber's electronic posting was made before the attacks. It had been deleted by Tuesday evening for undisclosed reasons.

"We have no knowledge that the people involved in the shootings posted any messages on AOL," the spokeswoman said.

Media Coverage Brings Horror Of To American Living Rooms

College Press Exchange

America watched a television horror show Tuesday, made all the more alarming because students trapped inside Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., could see their plight on the TV screen.

The ninth and deadliest major shooting spree at a public school since 1997 brought into sharp focus the perils of live television in an evolving crisis.

This was what the Associated Press called "adrenaline television." The jolt was big enough to shove the war in Yugoslavia off the screen for several hours and run the minicams on overtime.

And it wasn't long before viewers nationwide saw live television at its most uncomfortable. A student, unable to escape from the school, used a cell phone to call Denver television station KUSA-TV. Hiding under a desk in a locked classroom, the student described what he had seen.

"I'm just staying underneath this desk. I don't know if they know I'm up here. I hope they don't," the student said.

Broadcast networks turned over coverage to the Denver stations.

The televised images were reminiscent of earlier shootings in Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and five other states: the anguished faces of students and

parents, paramedics carrying stretchers into red and white ambulances, SWAT team members crouching by school entrances, and interviews with people who knew the assailants.

As eyewitness testimony came in, a portrait of the assailants began to emerge. They were said to be part of the "Trench Coat Mafia," a group of students who dressed in black and sought revenge on a school that made them feel unwanted. They specifically targeted athletes and minorities, several witnesses said.

One of the most vivid images of the unfolding drama came when a bloodied student broke the glass in a second-floor win-

dow then, dangling an obviously wounded arm, jumped to waiting rescuers.

Throughout the day, the Denver stations posted hotline numbers for parents to call, reminding them to stay away from the school area, and directed students to an address for counseling near the school.

Live coverage from the school was over by the time President Clinton made a brief televised appearance from the White House, but a new media onslaught was about to begin. Long before the sun went down Tuesday, local television news teams from all over the country had dispatched their reporters to this Denver suburb to cover the aftermath of the grisly story.

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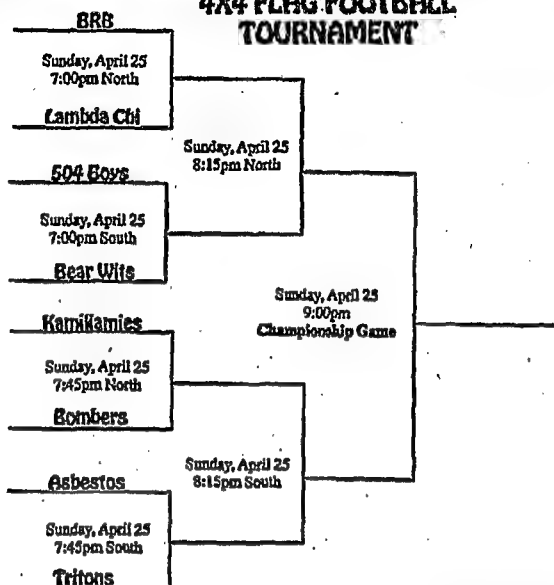
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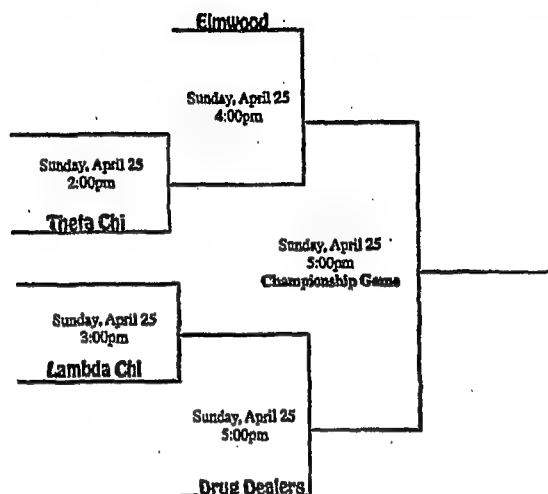
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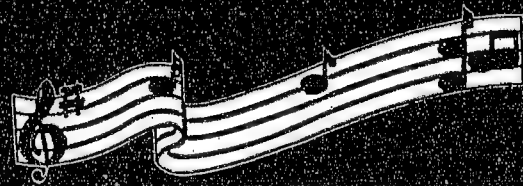
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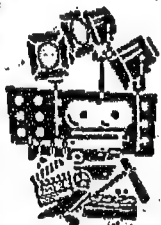
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section Arts & Leisure

Friday, April 23, 1999

The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Student Newspaper

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Timothy Olyphant Passes 'Go' on Way to Fame

College Press Exchange

Timothy Olyphant thinks "Go" has a lot going for it.

Certainly, insists the actor — best known for his role as the killer's apprentice in "Scream 2" — his new film deserves to be considered far more than "Pulp Fiction" for teens," as it's been dubbed by way too many sound bite-loving journalists.

"It would suck if all there was was a simple catch-phrase for the film," he says. "The fact is that it IS in the 'Pulp Fiction' genre. The perspective, though, is that of an 18-year-old girl (Sarah Polley) trying to pay her rent. You've got this celebration of youth happening. The screenwriter described the film's title, described 'Go,' as motion without purpose. It's a time of your life when you just feel invincible. You're unaware of how your actions affect others and are only aware of how other things affect you. There's a beautiful innocence to that period of life. "So, what the film does is blend the story elements in a way we haven't seen before. Yes, it's in

that 'Pulp Fiction' genre, but most of those films are told from the perspective of a character that's a bit older, male and a bit of a badass. MY character, basically, 'Go' is not that."

OK, more specifically, "Go" casts Polley as Ronna, a supermarket clerk who tries to make her first drug deal. The deal goes down badly, putting in motion interlocking stories involving Ronna and her pal Claire (Katie Holmes), a drug dealer named Todd (Olyphant), two would-be drug buyers (Scott Wolf and Jay Mohr), and Simon (Desmond Askew), a road-tripping co-worker of Ronna and Claire's and an associate of Todd's.

For his scenes, Olyphant strived to imbue Todd with equal parts menace and charm, particularly as Todd first holds Claire as human collateral, then romances her. "I try to make my job as simple as possible, and good writing makes it even easier," Olyphant says. "The writing in 'Go' is really good. All of the characters — and there are 10 or so — really pop.



Each one goes beyond a stereotype and takes you somewhere you didn't expect. Todd is one of those characters. When I first read the script, I was happy to see that he comes full-circle, that you see him be a little vulnerable, a little human. He starts as a cliché, but he doesn't end as one, which I liked."

Olyphant, who's 30, married and lives in Los Angeles, also liked his sexy scenes with Holmes. Thanks to "Dawson's Creek," the young actress is all the rage.

"She's just a sweetheart,"

Olyphant praises. "She couldn't be more solid or grounded. That impressed me. We shot the movie before she exploded into the huge level of fame we see now, but we did some reshoots after that. In that time, maybe five months, she'd become a huge star. Man, it was amazing to see that transformation happen so quickly. And it's amazing that Katie remains so level-headed about everything."

As for Olyphant, he's not a major star yet, but it could still happen. He works steadily and has appeared in the likes of "A Life Less Ordinary" and "The First Wives Club" on the big screen, the cable TV movie "When Trumpets Fade" and the series "High Incident."

Going back a bit more, he was born in Hawaii and raised in Modesto, California, then attended USC as an art student. Olyphant picks up the story. "Near the end of my run there I needed a basic elective class, so I took an acting class," he recalls. "I'd always thought about acting and I was in Los Angeles, so it seemed reason-

able to romance the idea. I loved the class and decided to follow the passion. I went to New York City and studied for two years, then got out on the pavement and hoofed it. I auditioned for anything I could get my hands on."

Olyphant won a number of roles and here we are, at "Go." Next up is "Advice from a Caterpillar," an indie flick with Cynthia Nixon as a woman who falls in love with a bisexual, out-of-work actor (Olyphant) she meets through her best friend, a homosexual played by Andy Dick.

"It's very funny," Olyphant says. "It's basically about Cynthia coming to grips with the feelings she has for this guy who is just not marriage material."

After "Caterpillar" there's "No Vacancy," a romantic-comedy co-starring Christina Ricci.

And after that?

"The plan is to do this for as long as they invite me to the party, as long as they let me stay at the party," Olyphant says. "I like the job."

Movie Review

'Lost and Found'

Andy Nordmeier
Staff Writer

David Spade is known for his short one-line humor and that makes up the bulk of the jokes in his new movie "Lost and Found," which opens today in theaters everywhere.

Spade plays a struggling restaurant owner, Dylan Ramsey, who does good business, but is looking to expand next door and get a loan to achieve it.

Along the way he gets bowled over, literally, by Lila Dubois (Sophie Marceau), the new French cellist in his apartment building, who looks like Mayim Bialik ("Blossom") at age 15 years.

Lila is trying to get her dog, Jack, back and he's probably the best actor in the whole movie. He certainly gets the most laughs.

If you thought the dog in "There's Something About Mary," had it rough, Jack should be the poster puppy for the ASPCA. He gets thrown like a dart, has what appears to be an acid trip and gets treated like a poodle from an infamous "Beavis and Butthead" episode.

The dog, lost by Lila, gets found by Dylan and he uses it as a way to try and hook himself up with Lila, who Dylan thinks is attractive and

should get an eye exam for it.

While playing pypysitter, Dylan is given the duty of watching his best friend's engagement ring and it winds up down in Jack's intestines.

Dylan gets the fun task of trying to hide the dog, while waiting for it to go to the bathroom and pass the diamond ring. Just when it seems like all will go well with Jack taking a walk in the park, he breaks free. Dylan and his delivery boy/friend Wally (played by the pudgy Artie Lang) go around the park and pick-up Spade's career, uh, I mean dog poop and look for the ring.

Add to the difficulty Lila's former boyfriend, Rene (Patrick Bruel), a group of elderly poker-playing neighbors that don't bet 40-cents off coupons, reward money and the film is full of Spade's zingers that his fans will enjoy.

The love story is as cheesy as a factory full of Velveeta, but there are some good laughs and sexual innuendoes show why this movie is rated PG-13.

It is better than some, okay all of Spade's past movies, but Jack should get a nod for best supporting puppy in a comedy. Hang around afterwards, to watch the cast make a few other chuckles, singing "Groove is in the Heart." Jon Lovitz provides laughs in a supporting role as a psychiatrist. It gets 2 stars out of 4.

No CD Collection Should be Without Stevie Ray Vaughn

College Press Exchange

Nearly a decade after his death, Stevie Ray Vaughan has yet to be deposed from his position as the era's most influential bluesman. He singlehandedly ignited the last decade's blues boom, and in the wake of his massive success a string of the genre's masters, most notably Buddy Guy, finally attained widespread fame. Purists will sniff that Vaughan also inspired a never-ending assembly line of clumsy and loutish blues-rock imitators, but that's a little like blaming "Sgt. Pepper" for "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida."

Guitar geeks continue to marvel at Vaughan's flawless technique, yet it was his ability to play within the song, rather than overwhelming it, that lifted him head and shoulders above the Yngwie Malmsteens of the world. He had the rare ability to find just the right balance between power and restraint, a point that is underscored throughout Columbia/Legacy's reissue of his

first four studio discs: "Texas Flood," "Couldn't Stand the Weather," "Soul to Soul" and "In Step." (7 stars for the first; 8 for the others.) That these discs haven't seemed to age is a testament to Vaughan's soulful, under-appreciated songwriting; he generally managed to avoid the numbing, play-by-numbers boogie that marks the work of too many blues rockers. These reissue discs sweeten the pot with several bonus tracks on each album, including a host of choice live songs and a medley of Jimi Hendrix's "Little Wing" and "Third Stone From the Sun" that approaches the transcendental.

Rounding out this Vaughan project is "The Real Deal: Greatest Hits Volume 2" (8 stars). The latter part of the title is a bit of a misnomer, as this collection goes more for career overview than radio hits. But it serves as a solid introduction to Vaughan's music, anchored by the salacious "Little Sister" and a mountain-leveling live version of "Willie the Wimp."

Ongoing Movie Reviews • College Press Exchange

(RATINGS: The movies listed below are rated according to the following key: 4 stars — excellent; 3 stars — good; 2 stars — fair; 1 star — poor.) (M.C. — Mark Caro; M.W. — Michael Wilmington; G.S. — Gene Siskel; J.P. — John Petrakis; M.R. — Maureen Ryan; R.K. — Rick Kogan.)

AMONG GIANTS. Based on an earlier screenplay by "The Full Monty" writer Simon Beaufoy but filmed afterwards, this is as touching and likable a romantic comedy-drama as anything from Britain in some time: a real romance, about recognizable people set in a fascinating background.

In the hills outside of Sheffield, the blighted English industrial city of "Monty," director Sam Miller shows us a wild bunch of modern cowboys — a team of power-line pylon painters, headed by Pete Postlethwaite — and the romantic and work crises after they welcome a female Aussie mountain climber, Rachel ("Hilary and Jackie") Griffiths, into their gang. With its gutsy humor and three-cornered May-September-May romance, "Among Giants" heartily celebrates modern independent spirits in the wastes of post-Thatcherland. R. 3 stars. — M.W.

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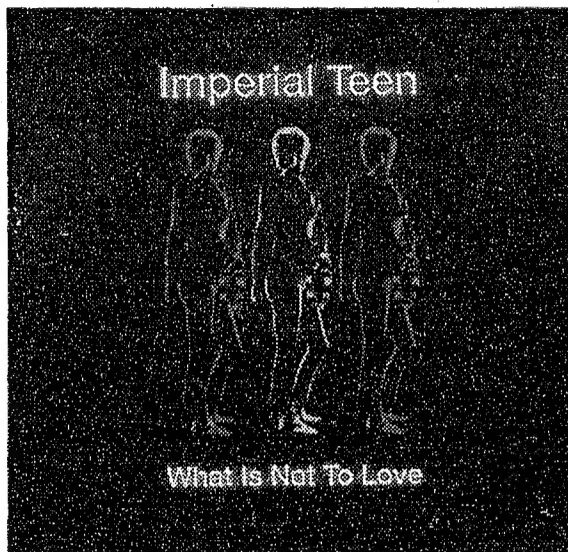
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CD Reviews

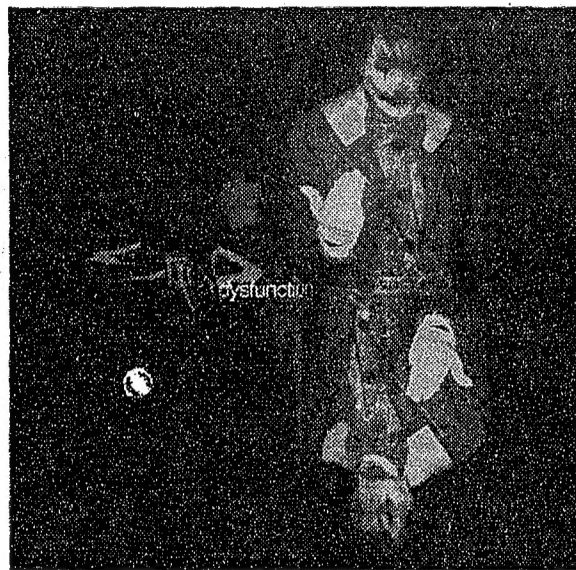
Curt Meyer
Staff Writer

Imperial Teen *What Is Not To Love* (Slash) First off, I have to say that this is the best title for an album I've seen in quite some time. This is the follow-up to their 1996 debut *Seasick*. Most of the press about this band usually centers on the fact that Roddy Bottum, the singer and guitarist for Imperial Teen, used to be in Faith No More. It's really a disservice to Imperial Teen to even mention that fact. Imperial Teen is nothing like Faith No More. IM's music (if you need something to compare it to) is more in the Pixies/Yo La Tengo/Sonic Youth/Eric's Trip vein. It's what they're calling "bubblegrunge" these days. The music on *What Is Not To Love* is very artsy and mellow. I enjoyed it severely. I'd even venture to say that this is probably the best CD that's

Staind *Dysfunction* (Flip/Electra) These boys are new on the major-label scene. Seems they met the right people at the right time. Usually I don't like the lucky shuffle in the music industry, but it seems that this time it's worked out to the listener's benefit. These guys were ripe for the picking. They're on the hard edge. Very comparable to Deftones/Korn/Acid Bath. You know, that whole scene. Except these guys are from Springfield, Massachusetts and they come at their music with a bit slower tempo. All the release is here though. All the anger. Staind may have stolen a bit from their peers, but they seem to add enough of themselves to keep it original. The subject matter in the lyrics is taken seriously and deeply. Especially in "Me"—about the breakdown between members of a divorced family—and "Mudshovel"—about dealing with wanting to tell someone what you think of them to their face after they've pushed your buttons. These songs go beyond the typical skateboard anthem, but not far enough to alienate the skateboarders.



been released in the past 12 months. Well, major label releases anyway. Just the songs "Yoo Hoo" and "Lipstick" are worth the purchase price. Five stars.



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MOVIE: Reviews From Across the Country

from page 1-A&L

ANALYZE THIS. This slick and ram-bunctious Harold Ramis comedy — with Robert De Niro as a Mafia boss suffering from panic attacks and Billy Crystal as the hip young New Yorker who becomes his personal psychotherapist — is smart, funny, and seems to have everything going for it: Still, there are little chinks and script flaws in its comic armor, just as there are neuroses boiling under the Cosa Nostra cool of De Niro's twitchy Paul Vitti. Crystal and De Niro are often a delight working together; so are Crystal and Joe Viterelli, as Vitti's affable bodyguard, Jelly. And Ramis ("Groundhog Day") is a director with a sure touch for contemporary urban comedy. This sure ain't "Jane Austen's Mafia." But as far as being a comic "Goodfellas": (ital) Fuggedaboutit.(end ital) R. 3 stars — M.W.

BABY GENIUSES. This car crash of a film, directed by Bob "Porky's" Clark, is so bad on so many levels that it's difficult to decide what to address first. Should we start with the concept, about an evil corporation named BABYCO, led by a fascistic doctor named Kinder, that is conducting questionable experimentation on very young children, especially twins? Should I go right to the structure, which borrows the aw-shucks talking babies idea from "Look Who's Talking" and mixes it with the mischievous antics of "Home Alone," so that we have bad guys getting their comeuppance at the hands of cackling genius babies? The most notable emotion one is left with is sorrow that such stalwart actors as Kathleen Turner, Peter MacNicol, Kim Cattrall and the great Ruby Dee found their way into this bomb. PG. Zero stars. — J.P.

BLAST FROM THE PAST. This time-

warp comedy shows what happens when a young man born in a bomb shelter in 1962 finally emerges in the '90s outside world. Adam (Brendan Fraser) remained hidden for so long because his parents — brilliant-but-wacky inventor Calvin (Christopher Walken) and his devoted wife, Helen (Sissy Spacek) — thought Los Angeles had been nuked soon after they disappeared into their shelter during the Cuban Missile Crisis. After 35 years, they figure the radiation has dissipated enough for Adam to explore the surface. Adam's mission is to return to the shelter with more years' worth of provisions and a wife. While trying to cash in some old baseball cards, he meets a kind young woman (Alicia Silverstone) who can't resist helping him. She's even willing to help him find a mate, though you know all along where their relationship is headed. Silverstone is easy to root for. But the entire movie seems to be straining and too often ignores what should be Adam's most rudimentary reactions to modern life. PG-13. 1-1/2 stars — M.C.

COOKIE'S FORTUNE. Robert Altman's new film, "Cookie's Fortune" — a comedy about an eccentric family in small-town Mississippi and a murder probe gone awry — is an absolute delight, one of the most sheerly pleasurable movies Altman has ever made. It's wry, jokey and sexy and, like most of Altman's best work, from "M-A-S-H" to "Short Cuts," graced with a top-notch ensemble of first-class actors — Glenn Close and Julianne Moore as dotty sisters, Patricia Neal as their raffish Aunt Cookie, Liv Tyler and Chris O'Donnell as a rebellious grand-niece and her randy deputy boyfriend and Charles S. Dutton as

see MOVIE, page 3-A&L

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The Scribe Behind 'Sunscreen' Vibe Named

College Press Exchange

CHICAGO - He might be a famous author 'n all, but Kurt Vonnegut didn't have anything to do with a song that's climbing the Billboard Hot 100 pop charts and likely to be the hippest tune playing at graduation celebrations this year.

Someone who posted the words that were set to music and called "Wear Sunscreen" told all of his or her e-mail buddies that Vonnegut, the author of "Breakfast of Champions" and "Slaughterhouse Five," had delivered the spiel in a commencement speech at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"Sing," Vonnegut supposedly said before moving on to other pearls of wisdom such as "Floss," "Stretch," and "Get to know your parents."

It's a nice story that never happened. But what is certain is that the e-mail landed in the hands of Australian movie director Baz Luhrmann ("William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet," "Strictly Ballroom"), who at the time, lo and behold, was working on a compilation of reinterpretations of songs featured in his films and stage productions.

Luhrmann called Vonnegut's people, who talked to Vonnegut, who graciously pointed everyone in the direction of a woman named Mary Schmich.

Mary Schmich?

She's actually pretty well known to readers of the Chicago Tribune, where she writes a regular column and has been fielding mountains of phone-calls and e-mail since people have figured out that she's the scribe behind the vibe.

"I was on deadline when I wrote it, and I didn't really think about it resonating with any particular age group, but now that I've been forced to analyze it, I have thought that on some level I was talking to my 17-year-old self," she said.

Of all the advice "Wear Sunscreen" offers, perhaps the best for young graduates is in the seventh paragraph, Schmich said.

"Don't worry about the future," it begins. "Or worry, but know that worrying is as effective as trying to solve an algebra equation by chewing bubblegum. The real troubles in your life are apt to be things that never crossed your worried mind, the kind that blindsides you at 4 p.m. on some idle

Tuesday."

"Young people today are so obsessed with knowing now what they're going to do for the rest of their lives," Schmich said. "And you can't know that. I had no vision when I graduated from college. I'm an example of someone who didn't know what I wanted to do and managed to find something I loved anyway."

Like penning lyrics for hit songs?

"Oh, I never imagined this," she said. "The song is quirky, wacky and ingenious. I like to think of it as multimedia in a multimedia age."

Given that she was confined by time and space, Schmich

said she left out quite a few other pearls she would have liked to pass on.

"I wish I had made some mention of the need for some kind of social obligation, commitment to something beyond yourself or your family," she said. "But I don't know how I would have phrased it."

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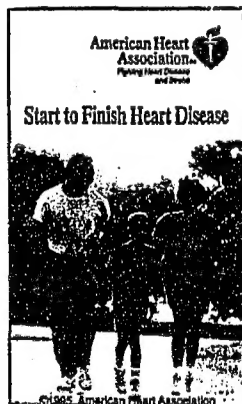
MOVIE: Spring, Summer Flicks Reviewed

from page 2-A&L

Cookie's faithful friend and hapless murder suspect — all seemingly having the time of their lives. PG-13. 4 stars. — M.W.

CRUEL INTENTIONS. There's a "playing house" quality to this teen version of "Dangerous Liaisons," as Sarah Michelle Gellar vamps in overdrive as the fiendish Kathryn Merteuil while Ryan Phillippe glowers and pouts as heartbreaker Sebastian Valmont, who sets his sights on a sweet virgin played by Reese Witherspoon. Although first-time writer-director Roger Kumble moves the story along briskly at first, you may eventually realize you neither care about these characters nor enjoy their scheming. With promiscuous high school culture replacing the repressed societies of "Dangerous Liaisons" and "Valmont," Kathryn and Sebastian just come across as spoiled, disaffected rich kids. Like the stylish, vacant "Jawbreaker," "Cruel Intentions" revels in its heroine's nastiness, then expects you to get charged up for her downfall. R. 2 stars. — M.C.

THE DEEP END OF THE OCEAN. This is a tale that should have touched audiences to the quick, moved them as effortlessly as many were moved by the book on which it was based: Jacquelyn Mitchard's bestseller. But, for me at least, it doesn't. The problem may lie, partly, in the obliterating power of "Deep End's" central story. This film takes what must be a mother's worst fear — the sudden disappearance of a young child — and gives it body and contour. As we watch, mother Beth Cappadora (Michelle Pfeiffer) looks away for a minute from her young child Ben (Michael Mcelroy) at a high school reunion, leaving him with his older brother. And in that instant, the child is gone. Will he be found? Will he be the same? Can she ever forgive herself? This is a movie that should have made us cry and bleed. But though it's an affecting, polished film, it's not satisfying: a nightmare that never achieves full intensity. PG-13. 2 stars. — M.W.



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The Cheap & The Choice

Compiled by Christine Kasel - Arts & Leisure editor

Friday, April 23

"Lasermajic Rock" Mallory Kountze Planetarium, Durham Science Center. Fri. & Sat. nights; Fleetwood Mac at 7 p.m. followed by Smashing Pumpkins at 8:30. Cake wraps up the evening at 10:30. \$4 adults, \$3 12 & under. Tickets for matinees are \$3/adults and \$2/children. Physics Hotline, 554-3722, or check out the web site at www.physics.unomaha.edu

"Moon Over Buffalo" Omaha Community Playhouse, 6915 Cass St. It's opening night for this backstage farce about a down-on-their-luck acting couple with one more chance at the big time. This play is rife with slamming doors, mad dash costume changes and wild chases. From the author of "Lend Me a Tenor." Showtimes: Tue. - Sat. 7:30 p.m. Sun. 2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Tickets for Tue., Wed., Thu., & Sun., \$17/adult, \$8/student. OCPH is equipped with hearing impaired devices and is fully accessible for the physically challenged. For more info or reservations call 553-0800. Check out their web site, www.omaha.org/ocph/

"Godspell" Dundee Dinner Theater, 5021 Underwood Ave. The classic rock opera, written by Stephen Schwartz, first opened on Broadway in 1977. Twenty plus years later and it's as hot as ever. This production is directed by Andy Hulett and features Cory Sanchez as Jesus and Chris Thackray as John the Baptist. Shows are Thu. - Sun. thru May 29. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Thu.-Sat. and 2 p.m. on Sun. Tickets range from \$13.50-\$24.95. For reservations or more info call 558-8535.

"The Female Odd Couple" Diner Theater, 6064 Maple St. This is opening night for Neil Simon's female rewrite of the classic Broadway hit, "The Odd Couple." The production includes five deaf and three hearing actors. Shows are in sign language, interpreted in American Sign Language and voiced. Shows run Mon., Thu., Fri., and Sat. nights thru May 15. Doors open at 6:30, dinner served at 7 p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets for dinner & show are \$18. Show only \$10. For reservations, menu or other info call 553-4715.

"The Glass Menagerie" Brigit Saint Brigit Theater, 1901 S. 72nd St., College of St. Mary. A timeless story of family conflict set in 1939 St. Louis. A touching and sometime bitter and comic look at love and personal fulfillment. Runs Fri., Sat., and Sun. through May 2. Fri. & Sat. performances begin at 7:30 p.m., Sun. shows start at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50/GP, \$10.50/students, and 55+. For reservations call 399-6287, ext. 2.

"Simpatico" The Blue Barn Theater, 614 S. 11th St in the Old Market. Kevin Lawler is back in the saddle, directing this tragicomedy by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Sam Shepard. You just can't go wrong with a Shepard play. I haven't seen this production, but I like the quote used in the BBT press release. "Right now, right this very second, someone is cutting someone else's throat." I don't think you could make a pithier observation. The New York Times called the writing in *Simpatico* some of Shepard's

"distinctive, savage best." I don't know about you, but I know I'll be there. The show runs thru April 25th. Curtain times are Thu. thru Sun., 8 p.m. Tickets \$12 for adults, \$10 students. For reservations call 345-1576.

"Farewell Fillmore High" Stage West, 5345 S. 139th Plaza (Millard Plaza Shopping Center). Hold on to your chapeaus, mon ami. The producers of the famously funny "Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding" are opening Omaha's newest theater with another "interactive theatrical experience." Written by Tom Becka, Dutch Haling, Stacy Maddux, Michael McCormack and John Morrissey, the play features veterans from "Wedding," as well as newcomer Steve Miller as Abdul Saddam O'Brien. During the show, you're an alumnus of the fictitious Fillmore High at a final all-class reunion. The school is closing after a mysterious explosion takes care of the boiler room. See ya at the funnies. Show times are Thu. thru Sat. at 7 p.m. and Sun. at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$17.50 and a cash bar will be available. Ticket Express: 398-1999.

"The Shadow Box" Rose Blumkin Performing Arts Center, 2201 Farnam St. Todd Brooks is directing this Pulitzer Prize winning play, which revolves around three terminally ill people and the reactions of their families. No one dies in the production, said Brooks in an Omaha World Herald interview, it's more about how people do or don't deal with it. 8 p.m. Fri.- Sun. through April 18. \$15 GP, \$10 students & seniors. For more info call 342-9053.

Saturday, April 24

UNO Baseball College World Series Park: UNO vs. Northern Colorado 4/24 and 4/25. Hard-core hardball enthusiasts, this is your final shot to catch your Mavericks in action at home this season. The Mavericks are going to beat the Bears of Northern Colorado all over the diamond in four crucial North Central Conference games. The Mavericks beat Northern Colorado three out of four times last year...this time UNO will gun for all four wins. First pitch gets thrown out at 1:30 p.m. for the doubleheaders, one Saturday and one Sunday. - Andy Nordmeier, Sports Editor

"Spectrum," Strauss Performing Arts Center. An evening for the young women of classical music to take center stage as world-renowned pianist Lilya Ailberstein performs Mozart's "Ninth Piano Concerto." Also featured is the world premiere performance of "Lux," composed by 1997 Omaha Symphony Guild's International New Music Competition co-winner, Lisa Beilawa. Performance begins at 7 p.m.

"Lasermajic Rock" Mallory Kountze Planetarium, Durham Science Center. Fri. & Sat. nights; Fleetwood Mac at 7 p.m. followed by Smashing Pumpkins at 8:30. Cake wraps up the evening at 10:30. \$4 adults, \$3 12 & under. Tickets for matinees are \$3/adults and \$2/children. Physics Hotline, 554-3722, or check out the web site at www.physics.unomaha.edu

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"Enigma" Jewish Community Center, 333 S. 132nd St. Featured artists for the rest of the month are Jo Brown and Julia Noyes. Brown's work is in the permanent collections of the University of Nebraska's Center for Plains Studies, the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, Doane College in Crete, Ne., and best of all, the Kahoa Elementary School in Lincoln. That's a pretty good endorsement, considering the school kids at Kahoa voted on its selection. As far as I'm concerned, there's nothing so discerning than the pure vision of a child. Sun. gallery hours are 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. for other hours call 334-6403.

Sunday, April 25

"University Chorus & Choir" Strauss Performing Arts Center. This is the editor's choice for the week, no doubt about it. The UNOmaha Symphonic Wind Ensemble presents a night featuring Nebraska composers, conductors, and performers. The concert features Dr. C. James Sheppards' newly composed work, *Sea Changes*. Dr. Sheppard is a Nebraska native and a 1967 graduate of The University of Omaha. A special "Meet the Composer" presentation will be held prior to the performance at 7 p.m. in Room 105 of the Strauss Performing Arts Center. There are several other gems in tonight's performance, including a concerto written by UNO's Dr. Kenton Bales and a performance by the University Band. Graduate student con-

ductors Elie Harriet and Dan Abrahams will conduct pieces tonight. An additional reception honoring the guest artists will be held following the concert. Performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets \$2/students & seniors, \$3/GP. For tickets call Chris Aker at 554-3427.

"Earth Day" Heartland of America Park, Eighth & Douglas streets. A whole day celebrating and promoting the health mother earth. Highlights include the Fred Thomas Memorial Award and the Children's Parade. Musicians performing include Michael Murphy, Dougan & Doyle, The Tree Huggers, Echo Farm and Paddy O'Furniture. Speakers include Senator Don Preister, Dr.

Jim Platz, Walt Bleich, Chad Smith and Dr. Charles Harper. There will also be many organizations and companies with information booths and enviro products. Several food vendors will offer vegetarian fare.

"Earl Bates Review" Pastime's Bistro, 7653 Cass St. Prairie Cats joins Earl tonight. The popularity of this group has high-jumped since their inception last summer and their following is pretty loyal. These guys play it all; jump-swing, blues, rockabilly, and big band. They received big-time kudos after opening for Indigo Swing. Voluntary \$3 donation is suggested. For more info call 393-8588.